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August 31, 1900

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tion cards" issued by the medical officer of the Louisiana State board of health.

Respectfully,

WM. H. CARSON,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

*Fruit service at Puerto Barrios.*

PUERTO BARRIOS, GUATEMALA, *August 16, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report leaving Puerto Cortez, Republic of Honduras, Wednesday, August 15, on the steamship *S. Oteri*, bound for New Orleans and the intervening Central American fruit ports of Puerto Barrios and Livingston in Guatemala. I arrived at Puerto Barrios, which is 60 miles from Puerto Cortez, Thursday morning, the 16th instant, and then had an interview with Medical Inspector J. B. Bonney, representing the Louisiana State board of health, who assured me as to the freedom of the port and vicinity, at this date, from the presence of contagious or infectious diseases.

Fruit ships destined for New Orleans make a landing at this port to discharge freight and mail and accept passengers for New Orleans and intermediate coast points in British Honduras, if they are provided with "identification cards" from the medical officer representing the Louisiana State board of health and who is stationed at this port, and if they have complied with the quarantine regulations of said board.

The Mobile steamers only receive fruit alongside of the wharf, but do not accept passengers, inasmuch as no medical officer of the Marine-Hospital Service is stationed here. The Guatemalan Northern Railway Company had until lately a hospital located in this port, but which has been removed to Sacape, a small town on the line, 60 miles in the interior.

At the present time this railway is not in operation, owing to extensive washouts of track, and, as a consequence, there is little communication with the interior and practically none with the Pacific coast of Guatemala.

Respectfully,

WM. H. CARSON,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

*Inspection and recommendations concerning the ports of Hilo, Hawaii, Kihei, and Kahului.*

HONOLULU, H. I., *July 25, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that it has been necessary for me to visit the ports of Hilo, Kihei, and Kahului in order to see the local conditions in each place, select men to nominate as quarantine officers and make recommendations relative to the necessary quarantine outfit at each place.

At Hilo, on the island of Maui, and distant from Honolulu 229 miles, I found no establishment for quarantine purposes. Provision had been made under the old Hawaiian board of health for the boarding and inspection of vessels arriving there, but there was no quarantine station or place where persons sick with contagious disease could be treated or people exposed to such held in detention on shore.